

# Women's Societies

## SUGGESTIONS.

By Miss C. L. Campbell.

"What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

You dear, busy, earnest Leader, you just must have a small equipment fund, out of your own pocket, if it is not otherwise provided for. Every workman needs tools; and now you will need another dollar to carry out this program for the Juniors.

Send to the Presbyterian Book House, Richmond, Va., and get the seven sets of post cards (10 cents each) from our seven foreign mission fields. Then send at least a week ahead of time, an invitation on one of these cards to each of your Juniors. Perhaps something like this:

Come to the meeting on Monday at three,

And puzzle out beautiful things you'll see,

As we take our journey around the earth,

To see what our mission stations are worth.

Have seven tables arranged for the "players," one representing each field by some simple device, a chrysanthemum on the Japan table, a Chinese woman's shoe, on the China table, a cactus for Mexico, and so on.

Ask the Juniors to guess the tables before they sit down for the game. Then have them seated two or three or four as the number present requires, and give each one a mysterious sealed envelope. At a given signal let all these be opened, and the children will find the result of your work of the preceding days. (Always this preceding work for the Leader.)

The cards left over after the invitations went out, you have cut up into puzzles, and put each in an envelope marked "Japan," "Mexico," "Brazil," etc.

Now give your Juniors a limited time, say three minutes, and piece out these puzzles: at the end of three minutes have all stand who have completed a puzzle, and make a list of these winners on a blackboard.

After the second three minutes have all change to another table, and so get acquainted with as many fields as the time will permit. Should ages or mentality vary very much, pair the Juniors off, a weaker and a stronger together, and let them work as partners, and share the honors gained.

If you are fortunate enough to have a reflectoscope, tell the children to bring back their invitation cards, and show these on a screen and when your meeting is over (or you might have two similar meetings this time), your Juniors will know more about our foreign fields than older minds would guess, because their "eye-gates" are very wide open.

## EAST MISSISSIPPI PRESBYTERIAL.

The tenth session of East Mississippi Presbyterial convened in the First Church of West Point on the afternoon of the 11th of October, for a three days' session with twenty-four delegates present, and Mrs. John Kay, the efficient president, in the chair. The Presbyterial was fortunate in having such speakers as Miss McMullen returned missionary from China, Mrs. Sydenstricker, president of the Synodical of Mississippi, Miss Mary Wallace Kirk, secretary of the Y. W. C. A. of the I. I. & C., and Mrs. Whittaker, president of North Mississippi Presbyterial. The Presbyterial reached the standard of excellence as prescribed by the Woman's Auxiliary; \$792.00 were

given to Home Missions; \$709.00 to Foreign Missions. Total gifts to all causes were \$2,581.00, or \$7 per capita. Increase over last year's gifts, \$622.00, over last year's membership, 33.

Mrs. Kaye of Booneville, was re-elected president, with Mrs. Hutchinson of Shuqualak, vice-president; Mrs. Grant of Pontotoc, secretary. Presby-Hicks of Pantotoc, secretary. Presbyterial was invited to hold its next meeting in Corinth.

Miss Ada Watson,  
Mrs. Ledberry,  
Presbyterial Committee.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMAN'S WORK IN THE CHURCH.

Woman's work in the Church has been from the very beginning and of far-reaching extent. Our Lord's ministry on earth was aided and lightened by noble women and it is to woman's loving service and untiring labor the success of many a ministry now is due. When we enter a church we are conscious of the flowers, the beautiful hangings, the music, the warmth and the exquisite cleanliness of the whole. Back of each single detail is the hand of some woman—the esthetic hand of Mary or the honest capable hand of Martha.

Our societies are at work everywhere. We are undertaking new labors at home and in foreign lands. Our women visit the sick, hold out the hand of welcome to every stranger, contrive and plan how to make a little money go a long way and also how to make that little money. What further opportunities for service then have we. It has always seemed woman's lot to spend herself, to assume responsibilities and carry burdens which should sometimes not fall on their shoulders. We have seen this in home around us. A sweet, unselfish mother has done everything love and self-sacrifice could suggest for her only daughter. The girl grows to womanhood in the midst of the most beautiful home life and we all exclaim at her utter irresponsibility and seeming lack of love for her mother. We are all familiar with the woman like this. Are we women, in our zeal as Church workers, bearing burdens and doing loving Christian work which should be shared by men? In a certain parish on the Eastern Shore of Maryland women pay the minister's salary, collect and settle all bills, run the choir, ring the bells for services and the early worshipper may even see some zealous sister putting the last bucket of coal on the fires. Sometimes in this church no offering is taken, as this is considered exclusively a masculine office, and no man is present. The men know everything will go on nicely without them, and rest in sweet placidity, knowing none of the joys of work for God well done. Is it in our power to change this deplorable state of affairs? Poets through the ages have flatteringly sung the wonderful power of woman. The press has thundered it forth. We are told that without the ballot we sway elections and rule and mold the lives of men. We smile complacently at the rocking-the-cradle-and-ruling-the-world compliments which are forever strewn in our paths. What, then, have we done with this wonderful God-given power to bring our brothers, our husbands, our sons, the work of the Church? Can we not make our men see that merely writing a check is not the end of personal responsibility and that their business ability, their far-sightedness are

just the things which must join with our patient work and idealism to offer unto God acceptable service? Woman's ways are many and resourceful, and what she earnestly desires she usually accomplishes. Is the accomplishment of this within our power?

As an aid to the busy rector a woman's tact and viewpoint are of wonderful help. The good women he knows will always be present at the services in rainy and stormy and also in glorious automobile weather. Why, he hardly knows how he could deliver a sermon without the inspiration of those earnest faces. A telephone call we could have sent telling him of that sudden illness in the parish would have saved fancied neglect on one side and a lost opportunity for service on the other. Our new seamstress tells us she used to go to the Episcopal church. Let us not keep this information to ourselves, but tell our rector and let him bring to her the comfort and help of church association. When he preached last Sunday he said things which brought resignation for last week's trials and strength for the days to come. How timely and welcome came the words of his text: "Not a sparrow falls to the ground but your heavenly Father knoweth it." He had prayed earnestly that he might bring to his people the comfort of this message. Have we thought of the warm glow we would bring to his heart if we told him it had helped us?

It is for the aid we could give to each other that we would pray for an inspired pen to write eloquently. In a little story we read of a girl who owed her social success to the words told her by her godmother: "Everybody's lonesome." This feeling gave her assurance to talk to great men she would otherwise have been too shy to approach, and in her endeavor to cheer others lose sight of self-consciousness. Everybody is lonesome, and when we meet each other in church or in our societies, the cheery, helpful word we think to say may send somebody home warmed and comforted. Let us close our eyes to fancied slights from our fellow members and resolutely think no evil, speak no evil and listen to none. We are apt to undervalue the importance of the individual. A member is absent from church or a society meeting. She thinks "I am only one and will not be missed." She is only one, but do we not all know in every society one who is always present, always ready to assume the undesirable task and whose dear, bright face has almost come to stand for the society to us?

When evening comes our hands drop idly for a few minutes in our laps and the events of the day pass through our minds. If it has been well spent and full of work well done no matter how tired we are, a glow of satisfaction comes over us such as no other single thing can give. It will be like that when the long shadows fall and we leave a world of work imperfectly done for a world of work which will be perfect, "with none but the Master to praise us and none but the Master to blame." No day goes by that further opportunities for service do not arise, and as we seize them the way grows easier and brighter and the joy of accomplishment is ours.

To urge earnestly and prayerfully the men of our families to greater usefulness in the church, to aid and encourage our rector in every way we can and to feel our own responsibility to each other, our church and our God will open up to us new ideals, new visions and "bring our feet into the paths of peace."—M. W., in the Mission Herald.

## WORLD FELLOWSHIP WEEK.

Clarissa Spencer.

How large is our world? Is it bounded by the confines of our own social or business circles, by our village or town, our state, or even our country? Or does the world of our interest correspond to the world in which we live, so that people living even in the uttermost part of it become real to us, and we are moved by their courage and fortitude to more heroic living, or by their needs and suffering to more unselfish giving? Are we villagers or world citizens? Living in a village or globe trotting has nothing to do with this, for it is not a question of geography, but of an attitude of mind and spirit.

As one passes by train through the little villages and small towns of Western Canada, apparently so far away from the great centers of population and world interest, one realizes how large their world must suddenly have become to the children in the schools, to the people on the farms, or in the village stores—because from these villages and farms have gone fathers, brothers, husbands and sons to fight in other lands and with other peoples for the great empire of which Canada forms a part.

In India women who have been bound in the narrowest confines because of caste and tradition are today stepping out of their seclusion into a large world because of the sacrifices which they have made in sending those dear to them to fight in other lands for a cause which hitherto has meant little or nothing to them.

Each year the second week of November has been set aside as a time when association members all over the world might pause and, by prayer and by service, gain a new conception of, and a new devotion to, the World's Young Women's Christian Association, of which they are members. This has been the time when we have tried to make real to ourselves our union with our members in other lands and our joint privileges and responsibilities in promoting the Kingdom of God throughout the world. And so we have observed for many years our World's Week of Prayer.

This year we are facing extraordinary conditions. Almost all of Europe with large portions of other continents, is involved in a terrific conflict which inevitably will raise barriers and make divisions between the different races. The suffering and need is beyond anything of which we can conceive. Courage, devotion and self-sacrifice are being shown in these terrible days by those other members of our own association over-seas. That we know! But at best they often seem shadowy to us—not real flesh and blood like ourselves—and we easily forget them and their sorrow in the pressure of our own interests and concerns.

In the Orient and in South America are many women and girls who greatly need the association and all that it can give them. If they are to know Jesus Christ, that knowledge must come to them very largely through the association, and for it they are dependent upon us. We know something of them, but how far away and unreal they generally seem! Only as they and their needs do become real to us shall we know how to help them. So as we approach this Week of Prayer in November we are in the midst of need and suffering and sorrow, with opportunities for service and grave responsibilities pressing upon us, and with a great sense of our own inadequacy. We have known many of these things for a long time, and we have been in danger of taking them so for granted that they have ceased to have much meaning for many of us.